MR. RAJYASEVANIRATA S. CHATTANATHAKARAYALAR: May I ask whether the Government of Madras have not lifted the ban on the export of chillies?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: Only within the Madras Province.

PRESIDENT: The Madras Government have been careful to say that they lift the ban as regards the Madras Province only. They cannot export.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: What they have done is to remove the restriction of the movement of the commodity from the District to another within the Presidency.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know when this question was admitted—Is it not some 10 months ago?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: I am not in a position to say that. This is a continuous session and the questions might have been held over.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: Cannot the honourable member guess the time from the serial number? I can see from the number that the question is at least 10 months old.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: I cannot venture to make a guess.

Permit for import of foodstuffs.

603. *MR. P. S. MOHAMED (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a concise statement of the scheme followed by the Department for issuing permit for the import of chillies, onions, potatoes, etc?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: Permits are issued on a regional basis for the import of chillies, onions, potatoes, etc. to recognised merchants of the State dealing in these commodities.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: May I know whether permits are issued month after month to particular merchants at particular localities?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: Permits are issued periodically.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: On what basis?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: On the basis of the standing and the capacity of the merchants to operate the quota.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: May I know whether there are other merchants from the same locality who get the quota?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: As far as possible the distribution is made on a regional basis considering the claims of leading merchants.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: Why should it be restricted to one merchant in the same locality?

PRESIDENT: Now the situation is that lawyers and people who are not in the line are leaving their profession for the purpose of importing onions and chillies, Government are not showing any concession to them. The idea of Government is to give everybody permits at intervals.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether any permits have been given to wholesale merchants at Chengannoor?

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MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: I cannot say; I must look into the list.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether there were applications for permits from very respectable merchants from Chengannoor?

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: Is there any merchant at Nagercoil who is getting it regularly and continuously from the date of this order?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Will the honourable member look into the matter? The policy of Government undoubtedly is that there should be a rotation in this matter.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether permits have been issued to any of the merchants in Thiruvella taluk?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: I must look into the list.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether representations have been made repeatedly to the honourable member on this question?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: A large number of representations has been received in regard to distribution.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the request contained in any of the reports has been complied with by the Director? May I know the name of the merchants to whom permits were issued in Thiruvella taluk?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: I am unable to say that now.

MR. P. S. MOHAMED: റീജനൽ ബേസിസ് എന്നു പറയുന്നതു ലൈസൻസുള്ള മർച്ചന്റിനാണോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: അതെ.

MR. P. S. MOHAMED: ലൈസൻസുള്ളവർക്കെല്ലാം പെർമിറ്റ് അനുവദിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: റീജനൽ ബേസിസ്സ് അനുസരിച്ചു ലൈസൻസുള്ള പലർക്കും പെർമിറ്റ് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

Provision merchants.

604. *MR. P. S. MOHAMED: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list by caste of provision merchants who hold licences in 1118, 1119 and 1120 till Mithunam 1120?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER: Licences are not issued on the basis of communal representation.

MR. P. S. MOHAMED: സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യം ലൈസൻസുകൊടുക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ഇല്ലാ എന്നു വരുകിലും ഏതെല്ലാം സമുദായങ്ങൾക്ക് ലൈസൻസു കിട്ടാൻ ഭാഗ്യമുണ്ടായെന്ന് ഈ സഭയിൽ പറയുന്നതിന് തടസ്സമുണ്ടോ?

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